

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 AMMAN 02013 021633Z
ACTION NODS-00

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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5266

S E C R E T AMMAN 2013

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, JO, US
SUBJECT: COURT CHIEF SHARAF - HUSSEIN VISIT TO US

1. SHARAF ASKED ME WHAT I THOUGHT ABOUT A VISIT BY HUSSEIN TO WASHINGTON TO SEE THE PRESIDENT SOMETIME IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

2. I TOLD HIM THAT I HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS AND THAT MY OWN PERSONAL VIEW WAS THAT KING HAD JUST SEEN PRESIDENT IN TEHRAN AND INDEED SEVERAL TIMES OVER PAST YEAR, THAT KING DID NOT INDICATE TO ME ANY DESIRE FOR A VISIT, AND THAT ANY VISIT SHOULD BE RELATED TO PROCESS OF PEACE NEGOTIATIONS RATHER THAN TO FACT THAT FOR LAST FEW YEARS KING HAD REGULARLY VISITED WASHINGTON IN THE SPRING. I ADDED THAT IF THERE WERE REAL PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS TO THE POINT WHERE IT MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE FOR JORDAN TO JOIN THEN SUCH CONTACTS MIGHT BE USEFUL AND PRODUCTIVE. ALTERNATIVELY, IF THERE WERE SOME KIND OF STALEMATE AND A NEW STRATEGY HAD TO BE EXPLORED THE TWO LEADERS MIGHT ALSO WISH TO MEET. I ASKED IF HE HAD ANY SENSE THAT HUSSEIN WANTED A MEETING.

3. HE SAID THAT HE DID NOT HAVE THAT FEELING AND INDICATED GENERAL ACCEPTANCE OF THE IDEA THAT A VISIT SHOULD BE MORE CONDITIONED ON PROGRESS AND SUBSTANCE THAN ON A ROUTINE SCHEDULE. HE ASKED ABOUT THE ANNUAL MILITARY TALKS AND I
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SAID THAT WE WERE AIMING FOR MID-MAY.

4. I HAD HOPED THAT THIS SUBJECT WOULD NOT COME UP BEFORE ROY ATHERTON'S VISIT AND THE OPPORTUNITY IT WOULD PRESENT TO DISCUSS THE MATTER HERE. SHARAF UNDERSTANDS THAT WHAT I GAVE HIM WAS PURELY A PERSONAL OPINION. IF YOU HAVE ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS PLEASE LET ME KNOW. MY INTENTION WOULD BE TO DISCUSS

IT WITH THE KING SOMETIME IN THE NEAR FUTURE, PROBABLY AFTER
THE ATHERTON VISIT WHEN THERE IS MORE TIME FOR SUCH MATTERS.
IF THE QUESTION IS ON SHARAF'S MIND IT WILL MOST CERTAINLY
ALSO BE ON KING'S.

5. PLEASE REPEAT TO JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE FOR ATHERTON.
PICKERING

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HEAD OF GOVERNMENT VISITS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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